

# THE BAPTIST Record

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MISSISSIPPI  
BAPTISTS

## Youth Night '07 fills Miss. Coliseum

By William H. Perkins Jr.  
Editor

More than 8,000 young people from Mississippi Baptist churches filled the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson on the evening of July 20 for the 2007 Mississippi Baptist Youth Night event — the largest annual gathering of Baptists anywhere in the state.

"I saw church buses in the parking lot from Jackson County in far southeast Mississippi to Itawamba County in the northeast part of the state. That's a long trip for those folks to get to Jackson for Youth night," said Don Lum, chairman of the Youth Night planning committee and evangelism director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB).



Lum

"Youth Night was everything we prayed and planned for — an opportunity for the young people of the Mississippi Baptist Convention to hear God praised and the Gospel preached in the language of their generation, and for each of

them to have an opportunity to make a decision for Christ," he said.

Youth evangelist and student ministry speaker Wade Morris of Birmingham, Al., was the featured speaker. "Wade has a gift for reaching out to young people and I believe they heard him, judging by their response to his message. There were 91 professions of faith during Youth Night and more rededications than we could count," Lum said.



Chris Orr

The Chris Orr Band provided worship through music. Orr is worship pastor of The Church at Mill Creek in Northeast Atlanta, and lives in Cornelia, Ga.

"Their music style is very contemporary, but each song they performed honored God and prepared participants for Wade's message," Lum said.

Serving with Lum on the 2007 Mississippi Baptist Youth Night planning committee were:

- Fish Robinson, associate pastor for students/college at North Oxford Church, Oxford.
- Clay Stegall, minister of youth at First Church, Madison.
- Gary Watts, who is involved in a house church ministry in Raymond.
- Lance Word, minister of youth/youth music/activities at Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian.

Staffers from Camp Garaywa in Clinton and Central Hills Retreat near Kosciusko

were on hand to serve as spiritual counselors after the invitation time, as well as a number of ministers and MBCB employees.

Camp Garaywa is the Mississippi Baptist Girls in Action (GA) encampment, while Central Hills Retreat is the Mississippi Baptist Royal Ambassador (RA) encampment.

Lum encouraged every Mississippi Baptist church to make sure their young people attend Youth Night. "It's a blessing to all those who attend," he said, "and we encourage our Baptist young people to being their unsaved friends, too."

The 2008 Mississippi Baptist Youth Night will begin at 6:30 p.m. on July 18 in the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson. Training for spiritual counselors will begin at 6 p.m.

For more information or to comment on the 2007 Youth Night, contact Lum at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3278 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 278. E-mail: dlum@mbcb.org.

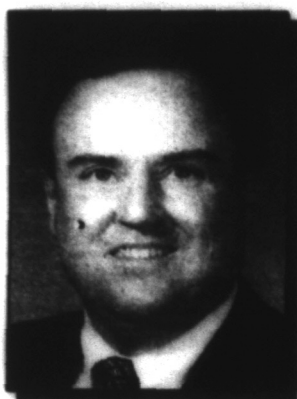


**SPECIAL MESSAGE** — Youth evangelist Wade Morris of Birmingham pauses to talk with young people who came forward to make spiritual decisions at the 2007 Mississippi Baptist Youth Night July 20 at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson. Morris turned off his microphone in order to briefly speak only to those who came forward. (Photos by William H. Perkins Jr.)





## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



**William H. Perkins Jr.**  
Editor

EDITOR  
William H. Perkins Jr.  
wperkins@mbcb.org

ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
Tony Martin  
tmartin@mbcb.org

LAYOUT/DESIGN  
Matt Broome  
mbroome@mbcb.org

ADVERTISING  
Dana Richardson  
drichardson@mbcb.org

CIRCULATION MANAGER  
Brenda Quattlebaum  
bquattlebaum@mbcb.org

EDITOR EMERITUS  
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**Postmaster:**  
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Tel: (601) 968-3800  
Fax: (601) 292-3330  
E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org

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# The power of the gambling/political complex

**L**egalized gambling has had an enormous social and cultural impacts on Mississippi since the first small river-boat casinos were approved in the early 1990s. Even fair-minded supporters of gambling admit that much, but differ with opponents on whether the cost to the state has been worth it.

Mississippi's social and cultural landscapes, always a tangled, disorderly weave of history, current events, and competing visions of the future, have changed radically since the advent of legalized gambling. Nowhere is that more evident than in the breathtaking growth of the gambling/political complex in this state.

As our jails and prisons fill with otherwise law-abiding citizens hooked on gambling to the point of fraud and embezzlement, as our children go without basic necessities while their parents gamble away paychecks and life savings, as families rupture and marriages implode, powerful gambling interests continue to push their expansionist agenda with the help of pliant politicians.

Virtually every governmental body in Mississippi counties where gambling has been approved have to ask this question about virtually every issue that comes before them: "How will this affect the casinos?"

That's certainly true too of Governor Haley Barbour and even the Mississippi Legislature, the majority of whom gave the gamblers everything they demanded in a post-Hurricane Katrina special session by passing House Bill (HB) 45 and allowing them to move their gambling halls off the water and 800 feet inland.

As we approach the second anniversary of that special session, it's important to understand the lessons we learned (or should have learned) up to this point regarding Mississippi's gambling/political complex.

Even HB 45's 800-foot rule is smoke and mirrors. During the special session, legislators allowed and the governor approved an exception to the 800-foot rule. All street and highway rights-of-way, as well as any utility rights-of-way, are excluded from the 800-foot count.

That means casinos can now move well beyond a literal 800-foot boundary to build their gambling halls even farther inland. You say you didn't know that? That's because the gambling/political complex and the news media — themselves beholden to the gamblers' bottomless advertising budgets — didn't exactly give that clause top billing in their public pronouncements.

That's just one example of how the gambling/political complex gets their way in this state. Mississippi Secretary of State Eric Clark, a member of the First Church, Brandon, and also the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, has had a frustrating time trying to persuade the gamblers and their politician friends to follow state laws with which they disagree.

Clark, who is not a candidate in the upcoming election, took on the Gulf Coast casinos over their exploitation of tidelands which are owned by the people of Mississippi. (Tidelands are the submerged lands along the coastline and lands covered by the daily rise and fall of tides. Funds from the use of these tidelands by private interests are held in trust by the Secretary of State for the people of Mississippi.)

Gamblers have made so many attempts to avoid responsibility for their use of the tidelands — including several major lawsuits filed and bills promoted in the Legislature to strip Clark of his oversight duties — that Clark said of one such attempt in 2004, "It's a plain example of the casinos and their lobbyists trying to dictate terms to the state, rather than the state effectively managing the casinos."

In another instance, Biloxi attorney Britt Singletary, representing one of the casinos involved in a tidelands dispute, told the Sun-Herald newspaper (08/24/2001) that Clark was running a "rouge agency" and had launched a public relations campaign against his client using Baptist news media. Singletary also referred to his client's opponents as "crazy Christians."

After years of wrangling and pressure, the gambling/political complex was finally able to change Mississippi's tidelands laws — during the 2005 post-Katrina special session. According to the Sun-Herald (10/08/2005), the Mississippi House of Representatives passed the revised tidelands deal by a vote of 109-4 as tallied on the chamber's voting machine but, as the newspaper pointed out, only about 40 House members were actually present at the time.

So, how did 113 votes get cast with only 40 representatives present?

"Under House rules, the vote stands, since no one raised a point of order about a quorum not being present," the newspaper reported.

Looks like we "crazy Christians" better brace ourselves for more stunts like that in the future, and for the eventual complete takeover of our state by the gambling/political complex. They'll be satisfied with nothing less.

We certainly can't complain that we weren't warned.

## How legislators voted on land-based gambling (HB 45)

\* denotes member of a Mississippi Baptist church

### House of Representatives YE-88 (for land-based gambling)

Name	City	District
Alkins, Noel*	Oxford	12
Bailey, Willie	Greenville	49
Baker, Mark	Brandon	74
Banks, Earle	Jackson	67
Bentz, Leonard	Biloxi	116
Blackmon Jr., Edward	Canton	57
Broomfield, Billy	Moas Point	110
Brown, Cecil	Jackson	66
Burnett, Clara	Tunica	9
Calhoun, Credell	Jackson	68
Carlton, Virginia*	Columbia	100
Clark, Bryant	Pickens	47
Clarke, Alyce	Jackson	69
Coleman, Linda	Mound Bayou	29
Coleman, Mary	Jackson	65
Compette, J.P.	Bay St. Louis	122
Davis, Lee Jarrell	Hattiesburg	102
Dedeaux, Dirk*	Gulfport	95
Denny, Bill	Jackson	64
Espy III, Henry	Clarksdale	26
Evans, James	Jackson	70
Flaggs Jr., George	Vicksburg	55
Fredericks, Frances	Gulfport	110
Guice Jr., Daniel	Ocean Springs	114
Hamilton, Frank	Hurley	109
Harrison, Esther	Columbus	41
Hinds Sr., John	Greenville	50
Holland, Steve	Plantersville	16
Holloway Sr., Gregory	Hazlehurst	76
Ishae, Roger	Gulfport	118
Janus, Michael	Biloxi	117
Johnson III, Robert	Natchez	94
Malone, Bennett	Carthage	45
Martinson, Rita	Madison	58
Mayhall Jr., W.T.	Southaven	40
Mayo, John	Clarksdale	25
Moak, Bobby*	Bogue Chitto	53
Moore, John*	Brandon	60
Morris, Leonard	Batesville	11
Myers, David	McComb	98
Norquist, David	Cleveland	28
Patterson, Randall	Biloxi	115
Peranich, Diane	Pass Christian	121
Read, John*	Gautier	112
Reeves, John*	Jackson	71
Robinson Jr., Walter	Bolton	63

### Simpson Jr., James\*

Name	City	District
Smith, Clayton*		
Smith, Ferr		
Snowden, Greg*		
Staples, Gary		
Straughter, Rufus		
Thomas, Sara		
Upshaw, Jessica		
Watson, Percy		
Whittington, May		
Woods, Tommy		
Young Sr., Charles		
Zuber III, Hank		

### NAY-53 (against land-based gambling)

Name	City	District
Aldridge, Brian*	Tupelo	17
Arinder, Tracy	Morton	75
Baker, Larry*	Senatobia	8
Barnett, Jim	Brookhaven	92
Beckett, Jim*	Bruce	23
Bondurant, Sidney	Grenada	24
Bounds, Scott*	Philadelphia	44
Buck, Kelvin	Holly Springs	5
Chism, Gary*	Columbus	37
Cummings, Ricky	Iuka	1
Dickson, Reecy	Macon	42
Eaton, Bo*	Taylorville	79
Ellington, Jim*	Raymond	73
Fillingame, Joey*	Sumrall	101
Fleming, Erik	Jackson	72
Formby, Mark*	Picayune	109
Franks Jr., Jamie	Mooreville	19
Frierson, Herb*	Poplarville	106
Gadd, Jack	Hickory Flat	13
Gibbs, David	West Point	36
Gregory, James*	Louisville	43
Gunn, Philip*	Clinton	56
Hamilton, Eugene	Olive Branch	6
Horne, Steve*	Meridian	81
Howell, Bobby*	Kilmichael	46
Hudson, Joey*	Monticello	91
Jennings, Wanda	DeSoto	7
Lott, Mike*	Petal	104
Markham Jr., J.B.	G'wood Springs	20
McBride, Warner*	Courtland	10
McCoy, Billy*	Rienzi	3
Miles, Bill	Fulton	21
Mims V. Sam	McComb	97

Name	City	District
Pass Christian		
Brandon		
Carthage		
Meridian		
Laurel		
Belzoni		
Indianola		
Diamondhead		
Hattiesburg		
Schlater		
Byhalia		
Meridian		
Ocean Springs		

Name	City	District
Vince, Robert		
Walley, Shaun*		
Ward, Greg		
Warren, Joe		
Weatherberry, Tom*		
Wells-Smith, Carmel*		

Name	City	District
PRESENT		
Ellis, Tyrone	Starkville	38
Perkins Sr., William	Greenwood	32

Name	City	District
NOT VOTING		
Huddleston, Robert	Sumner	30
Middleton, Chuck	Port Gibson	85
Scott, Omeria	Laurel	80
Shows, Bobby*	Ellisville	89

Name	City	District
ABSENT		
Masterson, Chester	Vicksburg	54

### Mississippi Senate YE-29 (for land-based gambling)

Name	City	District
Albritton, Sid*	Picayune	40
Brown, Terry*	Columbus	17
Burton, Terry	Newton	31
Chaney, Mike	Vicksburg	23
Clarke, Buck	Hollandale	22
Cuevas, Scotty	Pass Christian	46
Davis, Doug*	Hernando	1
Dawkins, Debbie	Pass Christian	48
Dearing, Bob	Natchez	37
Doxey, Ralph	Holly Springs	2

Name	City	District
15 Harden, Alice	Jackson	28
2 Hewes III, William	Gulfport	49
78 Hohm, John	Jackson	26
107 Huggins, Bunky	Greenwood	14
35 Jackson, Robert	Marks	11
33 Jackson II, Sampson	DeKalb	32
84 Jordan, David	Greenwood	24
14 Kirby, Dean*	Pearl	30
61 Lee, Ezell*	Picayune	47
22 Michael, Walter	Jackson	25
39 Moffat, Tommy	Gautier	52
87 Morgan, Ed*	Hattiesburg	45
22 Posey, Lynn*	Union Church	36
18 Robertson, Tommy	Moas Point	51
99 Ross, Charlie	Brandon	20
105 Simmons, William	Cleveland	13
4 Thames, Billy*	Mize	34
90 Walls Jr., Johnnie	Greenville	12
62 Williamson, Gloria	Philadelphia	18

### NAY-21 (against land-based gambling)

Name	City	District
Browning, Nickey	Portotoc	3
Bryan, Hob*	Amory	7
Butler, Kelvin	Magnolia	38
Carmichael, Videt*	Meridian	33
Flowers, Merle	Southaven	19
Frazier, Hillman	Jackson	27
Gordon, Jack*	Okolona	8
Hyde-Smith, Cindy*	Brookhaven	39
Jackson, Gary*	French Camp	15
King Jr., Tom*	Petal	44
Lee, Perry*	Mendenhall	35
Little, Travis*	Corinth	4
Metzger, Nolan	Sardis	10
Nunnelee, Alan*	Tupelo	6
Pickering, Stacey*	Soso	42
Thomas, Joseph	Yazoo City	21
Tollison, Gray	Oxford	9
Turner, Bannie	West Point	16
Walley, Shannon*	Leakesville	43
White, Richard*	Terry	29
Wilemon Jr., J.P.	Belmont	5

Name	City	District
PRESENT		
Goloff, Tommy	Biloxi	50
ABSENT		
Harvey, Billy*	Prentiss	41



# NOBTS bivo music class open for enrollment

The first of a series of eight courses for bivocational church music directors sponsored by New Orleans Seminary (NOBTS) begins August 20 at nine Mississippi locations.

The course, Song Leading, will meet once a week for two hours for eight consecutive weeks at the following locations and times:

- Broadmoor Church, Madison, beginning August 20 (7-9 p.m.). Jimmy McCaleb, teacher, (601) 924-1233.

- First Church, Booneville, beginning August 27 (7-9 p.m.). LuAnne Ford, teacher, (662) 728-6272.

- Northcrest Church, Meridian, beginning August 20 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). Buddy McElroy, teacher, (601) 681-6615.

- Hernando Church, Hernando, beginning August 20 (7-9 p.m.). Barry Tweedy, teacher, (662) 429-6361.

- North Greenwood Church, Greenwood, beginning August 21 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). Tommy Smith, teacher, (662) 453-2801. Barry Bouchillon, assistant teacher, (662) 453-5935.

- Winston Association office, Louisville, beginning August 20 (7:00-9:00 p.m.). Billy Bowie, teacher, (662) 773-6246.

- Franklin Association office, Bude, beginning August 20 (7-9 p.m.). Mark Hamilton, teacher, (601) 894-5848.

- Tri-County Association office, Columbia, beginning August 21 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). Brad Day, teacher, (601) 297-9699.

- Grace Memorial Church, Gulfport, beginning August 20 (6:30-8:30 p.m.). Anthony Turner, Teacher, 228-863-5096.

The eight courses in the series are Song Leading; Worship Planning; Reading Music; Rhythm/Pitch; Reading Music; Harmony/Melody; Hymnology; Music Administration/Staff Relations; Survey of Music Resources; and Class Voice.

These courses are designed to provide basic training for bivocational music directors and other music leaders in churches. The eight courses meet two hours per week. Each course is eight weeks in length.

The cycle of courses is scheduled over a two-year period. Each course is independent and has no prerequisite. Each student who completes the eight courses earns a Church Music Certificate from New Orleans Seminary plus a credit of eight hours toward an on campus degree program.

There is a one-time registration fee of \$25.00. The cost of

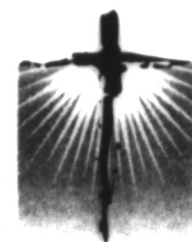


## NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

each course is \$135.00. A \$60.00 scholarship is available for all first-time students. Students already enrolled are not eligible, and the grant is limited to one person per church.

For more information, contact the teachers list is above or Jimmy

McCaleb, consultant in the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3273 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 273. E-mail: jmccaleb@mbcb.org.



MISSISSIPPI  
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## THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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## Three-parent families?

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — A little-noticed spring judicial ruling in Pennsylvania may help lay the initial groundwork for legalized polygamy, as recounted in a recent op-ed columnist in The New York Times. In a column titled, When 3 Really Is a Crowd, Elizabeth Marquardt of the Institute for American Values wrote about a case from April in which a Pennsylvania appeals court panel unanimously ruled that a child can have three legal parents: two moms (separated lesbians) and a dad (the sperm donor). The case, *Jacob v. Shultz-Jacob*, essentially focused on child support payments — the man was made a legal parent over his objections — but the case nevertheless is dangerous in its possible precedence, Marquardt said. Although in this example all three legal parents live separately, in other instances, Marquardt noted, the three adults might want to live together. "As one advocate of polygamy argued in Newsweek, 'If Heather can have two mommies, she should also be able to have two mommies and a daddy,'" she wrote. "If more children are granted three legal parents, what is our rationale for denying these families the rights and protections of marriage? America, get ready for the group-marriage debate." Marquardt, author of the forthcoming book, *My Daddy's Name Is Donor*, said a three-parent family like the one in the Pennsylvania case could be disastrous for a child. "[T]hree-parent situations typically involve a couple and a third person living separately, meaning the child will get shuffled between homes, and this raises problems," she wrote. "... [H]ow many homes should children travel between to satisfy the parenting needs of many adults?" If a court allows a child to have three legal parents, Marquardt asserted, then there's no reason why another court case cannot involve four or more parents. "Some situations involve a couple who wants the child, the sperm donor, the egg donor and the gestational surrogate who carries the pregnancy," she wrote. "... Fortunate children have many people who love them as much as their parents do. But in the best interests of children, no court should break open the rule of two when assigning legal parenthood."

## U.S. Senate gets first Hindu prayer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Some Americans took offense when a Hindu chaplain led the morning prayer in the United States Senate on July 12, because they said it defied the Judeo Christian heritage set forth by the nation's founders. "We meditate on the transcendental glory of the deity supreme, who is inside the heart of the earth, inside the life of the sky and inside the soul of the heaven. May he stimulate and illuminate our minds," Rajan Zed, director of interfaith relations at a Hindu temple in Reno, Nev., said in his prayer. Zed was the first Hindu to offer a Senate prayer since the formation of the governing body in 1789, and he was invited by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D.-Nev.) However, Zed was not the first Hindu to pray in Congress. That distinction belongs to a Hindu priest who prayed before the House in 2000. Also, a Muslim prayed before the Senate several years ago. "If people have any misunderstanding about Indians and Hindus, all they have to do is think of Gandhi," a man "who gave his life for peace," Reid said. Most conservatives acknowledged the prayer was constitutional but said it went against the nation's monotheistic foundation. Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council and no relation to the editor of The Baptist Record, noted, "No one can legitimately challenge the fact that the God America refers to in the pledge, our national motto, and other places is the monotheistic God of the Jewish and Christian faith," Perkins added. "There is no historic connection between America and the polytheistic creed of Hinduism."

## Looking back

### 10 years ago

The Mississippi Baptist Youth Choir completes its fifth year of ministry, with 173 students having auditioned for the choir, which ultimately had 109 participants.

### 20 years ago

Four Mississippi students return from a four-week mission stint in Africa, more appreciative of their lot in America. The students are Loreta Reynolds, USM; Al Fike, William Carey; Kathy Staggs, Ole Miss; and Eddie Broadhead, MC.

### 50 years ago

Raymond Church, Raymond, holds an open house for its new pastorium, which is all-electric and air conditioned. The new pastor, Clyde Gordon, will occupy the new residence.





# YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

## CHOICES

Just ahead is the election. Within weeks, we will be choosing our senators, representatives, and other statewide elected officials. In addition to these, across the state there are hundreds of decisions that are going to be made concerning county and city leaders. It is an important time in the life of our state. In virtually every race that I have seen, there are choices to be made. Two or more people are running for the same office, and the choices are not always easy. There are times when if I look at trying to make a decision about one candidate or another I am reminded of the question that confronted a fellow in a cartoon that I saw. It said, "What do you do if you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?" It is a dilemma and so often, our political landscape is as well.

One problem that citizens face is how do you know which candidate is really what he or she appears to be? Too often, we do not actually know the candidates, and we are faced with making a decision based upon who hired the best publicity firm to manage their campaign. Our feelings, our opinions, and then our vote are too often shaped by quick-hitting little ads that have been shaped by public opinion polls, and they make you think you are getting someone that will serve you well. Since you may not know and may never personally see the person running, you have no way of actually evaluating the true inner workings of character and integrity. Though they may give a genuine head nod toward faith, the church, and even Christ, what kind of daily walk do they have with the Lord?

The process of discovery is about gathering information on the candidates and feeling



## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

good about casting a vote in favor of a candidate. This may not feel good to many people and so they choose simply to opt out of the process and not even participate. Some people feel that it is their God-given and constitutionally protected right not to vote. Certainly they are free to do that, but that choice may not be their best choice. While there may be some poor candidates in the race (and history has shown that occasionally there may even be a scoundrel running), when you do not participate at all what does this say to the quality people who put themselves out there and then learn that good people will not even bother to help them by going to the polls?

As Christians, we have a great responsibility for we live with dual citizenship. We are to be good citizens of this world while we are also being good citizens reflecting God's Kingdom. We are light in a world that has so much darkness. We are salt that can change the face of the culture. We are pilgrims passing through, but while we are here, we are to make a difference. What can you do to make a difference in the election process? While this is not a full-blown treatment of democracy in action, let me give you three words that may help.

The first word is know. Know who is running. Know all you can about the people

who are asking you to vote for them. If they have been in office, look at their track record. Check their votes. If they have been serving and voting in a way that is contrary to what you feel is right and good, you need to be aware of it. If they have not been in office and they are saying that they will represent you, well once they get in office you can observe and know that they did what they said they were going to do. Read about the candidate. Most of them have a website, and while nobody is going to put the ugly pictures and the dark side of their personality on their website there is information to be gleaned. You need to know! More often than not as you look at a particular race, if you will check out the candidates, you will feel good about one of them.

The second word is go. Most of the polls will be open from seven in the morning until seven at night. In that 12-hour time frame, make your way to the polls and vote. Even if you are going to be out of town, on vacation, or a business trip, you can vote before you go. The absentee balloting process is streamlined and easy if you will just find a few minutes to go and take care of an important piece of business. Sometimes the people who choose not to go complain the most about the sad plight of the world. For the majority of

eligible voters in our state and nation, the fact is that if we would be overthrown by some foreign government and our vote taken away, many would have to confess that they surely want miss it because they never used it. Go!

The third word that I offer to you is to show. The Bible teaches that we are to pray for those people who are in authority — leaders, elected officials. We are to pray for them and show our care for them. Possibly something has come up, an issue has been discussed, and even a law passed that you did not agree with and you may have expressed your opinion directly to them or around the water cooler at work. Has it ever occurred to you to take the time to drop a note to an elected official and let him or her know that you are praying for them as they carry out their duties? While I recognize that they offer themselves to serve, I also am sensitive to the fact that it will mean an inordinate amount of time away from their families, pressures that may come from influential special interest groups, physical and mental exhaustion, and a struggle with difficult questions with no easy answers. While many of them, especially in legislative circles, will face some hot button issues and will receive an avalanche of calls, emails, and letters, few of them will receive much encouragement from caring, praying, solid citizens who take a moment to show they care about them as they shoulder the load of responsibility. While virtually all of the candidates are working hard, campaigning, and wanting to be elected, let's do our part to make the best choices we possibly can.

The author may be contacted at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. E-mail: jfutral@mbcb.org.

## YOU FILL THE BUS, WE'LL FILL THE SOUL

The natural beauty of Eureka Springs, Arkansas, is the perfect home for The Great Passion Play. Performed in a panoramic outdoor amphitheater, it features elaborate costumes and sets, plus state-of-the-art sound and lighting to create a grand spectacle you just can't miss. And you'll want to make time to enjoy our numerous activities and attractions,



such as the spectacular Christ of the Ozarks, Blue Spring Heritage Center, Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge, Ozark Mountain Hoe-Down Music Theater and Pine Mountain Jamboree Music and Comedy Theater. Plus, you will enjoy all the shopping and sightseeing only Eureka Springs can offer. Call today to book your group.

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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

# HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

July 26, 2007

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

*Pray this day for...*

**July 27 – August 9, 2007**

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

*"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a witness to all the nations, and then the end shall come"*

*(Matthew 24:14 NASB)*

(1) School Prayerwalk & Teacher Appreciation (WMU Emphasis); (2) Veryl Henderson, executive director treasurer of the Hawaii Pacific Convention, asks for prayer for healthy churches and consistent leaders in the Pacific Islands and for eyes to be opened to God's truth and away from pagan gods.

(1) Social Issues Emphasis, Child Abuse (CAC Emphasis); (2) Doug Simpson, Indianapolis, Ind., is the DOM for the Crossroads Assoc. Pray for the Pre-SBC 2008 Crossover evangelism event, August 5-11. This is the inner city work to help change lives by working in houses and yards, and painting a school and other buildings.

(1) Football Camp, Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Kosciusko, 30th-3rd (MM); (2) Pray for the mobilization of Brazil for the training and sending of Brazilian missionaries in the harvest fields of Brazil and beyond. Pray for Phil Kesler, who has completed research within Brazil to locate more lost immigrant groups within Brazil.

The Uruguay Urban Team writes "V is a man of peace (Luke 10:6) in El Pinar. He has read the water meter for people for several years and works to find homes for dogs. Pray for V's salvation and for him to mature as a Christian in order for him to assist in opening doors of opportunity in El Pinar."

Pray for a Bengali in Bangladesh who is 63, past the average life expectancy. He and his wife have health problems and are poor, yet he has led many to faith over the years and is working with Baptist partners to train his people. Every other week, he takes a long bus ride to visit and train them in the ways of their Lord.

Pray for T, a 15-year-old Sri Lankan girl who was expelled from her school last year. She used to lead the Buddhist chants at her public school, but after becoming a Christian she refused to do so. God has provided another school. She was very sad about having to leave the school, but she said she would not give up following Jesus.

Many Mexicans living on the U.S. are being touched with the gospel this summer. Evangelism is the core of kingdom advancement, but follow up is also vital. Lift up the missionaries and nationals who have the task of visiting those interested in attending VBS or other evangelistic events.

(1) 8th-10th, Baptist Building AT HOME DAYS; (2) Kyle and Anna Martin are church planters in Vancouver, Canada. Please pray for creativity, innovation, and leadership within the community. Pray for God's help and blessing with their new church called Open House.

Millions of ambitious young adults in China have put their hopes and dreams on higher education. Not only is it hard to get into college, but it is difficult for college graduates to find jobs. Pray that through the disappointment that results from these harsh realities, many young adults will seek and find everlasting joy in Him.

(1) New Staff Day, FBC, Jackson, Baptist Building, (CC); (2) The Central Asian country of Kazakhstan is divided into 14 regions. The people in nine of these regions have had almost no access to the Good News of God's sacrificial love. Ask God to send workers, especially Kazakh believers, to sow the seeds of the gospel in these regions.

(1) Growing Churches Conference, FBC, Tupelo, 27th-28th (D&FM); (2) Clark and Valerie Ruffelt are MSC church planting missionaries. Pray that the mission teams coming to help and that the church members will be sensitive to God's work through VBS and community wide events, and that they will be bold witnesses.

(1) Flake's Formula for the Future, FBC, Laurel (SS); (2) Area Preschool/Children's Choir Leadership Clinic, FBC, McComb, Hernando BC, Hernando (CM); (3) Praise God for the Hawaii state convention staff that closed their office for an all day prayer retreat with God at Camp Pum Kahea. They were truly blessed.

(1) Mississippi Ethnic, Garaywa (WMU & CPD); (2) Pray that student pastors in all West African countries will be good stewards of their schooling, and that God will reveal to them where to serve when they graduate. Ask the Lord to give them a burden to evangelize the many unreached people in the region.

(1) Agricultural Fellowship, Central Hills (MM); (2) Praise the Lord for a family accepting the call to serve among the one million Thai Khmer unreached people group. Pray for this couple.



MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST  
**SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**MBSO**  
Sunday  
August 12  
FBC, Summit  
6 p.m.

## 2007 Men's Ministry State Leadership Training

August 10-11, Central Hills Baptist Retreat

### CONFERENCES:

- Building an Effective Men's Ministry
- Why Men Hate Going to Church
- Building a Leadership Team
- Using Construction as a Ministry
- Using Disaster Relief as a Ministry
- Opportunities in Prison Ministry
- Maximizing RAs in Your Church
- Incorporating Campcraft into Weekly RA Chapter Meetings
- Mission Education in Your Church ... for All Ages
- Men's Fraternity

### COST

**\$25 per person:**

includes meals, lodging, and all sessions. Each participant should bring sheets (twin-size) or sleeping bag, towels and pillow.

### Registration

Begins at 6 p.m. at the Causey Center on Friday and concludes at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday.



**For more info and registration form,** contact the MBCB Men's Ministry Department at 601-292-3334, 1-800-748-1651 or [cwright@mbcb.org](mailto:cwright@mbcb.org)



	COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
ADAMS			
CALVARY	1,239.53	2,422.17	3,661.70
CLIFF TEMPLE	11,893.77	5,283.28	17,177.05
CORNFELD	820.60		820.60
FRC NARVAZ	74,438.95	94,088.74	168,527.69
HIGHLAND	15,968.46	15,571.02	31,539.48
IMMANUEL	7,062.85	8,035.00	15,097.85
MORGANTOWN	14,513.54	15,520.90	30,034.44
NEW HOPE	161.54	107.68	269.22
PARKWAY	32,118.27	28,487.27	60,605.54
CRINGFIELD	959.20	963.80	4,500.00
STANTON	9,781.81	7,360.00	16,541.81
WASHINGTON	8,494.16	8,034.80	16,728.96
Total	178,642.68	187,952.87	366,595.55

CALHOUN ASSOCIATION		380.00	380.00
ALCOCH	1,171.00	701.00	1,872.00
BANNER	3,666.50	6,365.55	10,032.05
BENTLEY		400.00	400.00
BETHANY	3,150.00	14,461.00	17,611.00
BIG CREEK	1,008.67	2,882.57	3,891.24
BRADFORD CHAPEL	2,690.58	8,497.24	11,187.82
COLLEGE	366.00	744.92	1,110.92
COLLEGE HILL	3,362.76	2,308.32	5,671.08
CONCORD	3,487.86	6,384.94	9,872.80
DERMA	13,342.19	9,438.80	22,780.99
DRIVERS FLAT	275.00	1,350.00	1,625.00
DUNCAN HILL	1,355.00	1,500.00	1,505.00
ELK	1,984.47	2,925.25	7,032.73
ELK BRUCE	22,452.00	22,925.25	50,377.25
ERC CALHOUN CITY	28,590.00	29,407.57	57,997.57
ERC PITTSBORO	4,263.00	4,537.00	8,800.00
ERC VARDAMAN	19,232.46	11,694.80	30,927.26
GRACE SOUTHERN BAPT	660.00	2,485.00	1,145.00
LANTRIP	2,023.72	2,111.68	3,235.43
MALDONIA	2,033.62	1,311.63	3,385.14
MANWAY	1,162.99	3,508.68	4,671.67
MIT COMFORT	2,812.62	4,264.56	7,077.18
MIT MORIAH	5,846.17	3,559.10	9,405.27
MIT TABOR	300.00	505.00	805.00
NEW HOPE	1,291.14	1,629.93	2,920.67
NEW LIBERTY		743.77	743.77
NEW PROVIDENCE	1,259.08	5,641.16	6,841.16
OAK GROVE	200.00	200.00	400.00
OLDTOWN	3,720.16	7,013.04	10,733.20
PARKER	1,394.60	1,267.74	2,662.34
PILGRIMS REST	201.03	201.03	402.06
PLEASANT GROVE	137.20	119.79	256.99
PLEASANT HILL	8,681.01	11,668.87	19,349.88
POPLAR SPRINGS	207.10	1,272.00	2,079.10
ROCKY MOUNT	779.90	1,493.34	2,273.24
ROCKY MOUNT	815.42	154.25	969.67
ROCKY MOUNT	1,062.04	1,898.06	2,960.10

FRANKLIN			
BUNKLEY	301.05	100.00	401.05
CONCORD	2,193.04	2,916.00	5,109.04
DAMASCUS	2,317.00	3,357.00	5,674.00
EDDINGTON	705.00	500.00	1,205.00
ELIZABETH BLVD	12,749.48	6,424.00	19,173.48
HAMBURG	1,127.00	2,145.00	3,272.00
HOWELL	1,620.59	2,728.00	4,348.59
LUCEN	2,943.73	1,682.01	4,625.74
MCCALL CREEK	673.00	1,593.00	2,266.00
MEADVILLE	18,496.13	8,811.04	27,307.17
MT ZION	3,140.55	619.96	3,760.51
NEW HOPE	81.67	333.47	415.14
NEW SALEM	1,930.38	1,720.00	3,650.38
OSAGE	986.00	826.50	1,812.50
PLEASANT VALLEY	266.09	1,120.78	1,386.87
PROVIDENCE	3,593.28	4,779.00	8,372.28
RAMAH	1,424.95	1,419.43	2,844.38
ROBE	5,887.18	2,075.00	7,962.18
SAREPTA	1,111.65	2,297.77	3,409.42
SILAMON	3,551.50	6,075.50	9,627.00

HOLMES			
ANTIOCH	813.30	1,355.50	2,168.80
BULAH	1,708.91	1,377.85	3,086.76
CALVARY	484.71	369.71	1,174.42
CACER	3,007.08	5,607.08	8,614.16
GREENER	811.00	728.00	1,570.00
RIC DURANT	4,820.61	9,050.32	13,870.93
RIC LEXINGTON	19,624.58	9,738.00	29,362.58
RIC THULIA	600.00	2,225.00	2,825.00
HARLAN CREEK	.	114.00	114.00
HORSESHOE	900.00	2,911.00	3,811.00
MAIN STREET	2,719.03	4,538.76	7,257.79
MT PLEASANT	1,543.88	1,050.00	2,593.88
NEWTON	466.48	435.00	901.48
OAK GROVE	785.00	435.00	1,220.00
OREGON MEMORIAL	750.00	235.00	985.00
PICKENS	1,360.41	660.00	2,020.41
WEST	1,613.24	408.07	2,021.31
TOTAL	41,536.23	41,36.16	82,872.39

	297,022.70	449,996.02	1,040,720.12
<b>KEMPER</b>			
RAY SPRINGS	3,083.16	2,665.00	5,748.16
BLACKWATER	1,541.00	2,140.77	3,681.77
BUFF SPRINGS	987.16		987.16
CENTER RIDGE	2,000.00	7,040.00	9,040.00
CENTH	913.84	43.00	956.84
DEKALB	6,400.00		13,300.00
LIBERTY	2,000.00	2,894.00	4,894.00
SALEM	549.45	530.00	1,079.45
SCOOBA	3,707.55	7,404.74	11,112.29
UNION	1,549.00	2,823.25	4,372.25
UNION HILL		150.00	150.00
WARDMAN	824.50	73.00	897.50
WYALUSA	400.00	431.00	831.00
WEST KEMPER		52,800.00	52,800.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,961.26</b>	<b>85,505.76</b>	<b>109,871.02</b>
<b>LAFAYETTE</b>			
ANCHOR	27,300.00	19,528.13	46,828.13
RAY SPRINGS		650.00	650.00
BETHL	565.35	565.35	1,130.70
CALVARY	1,024.59	3,801.20	4,825.79
CLEAR CREEK	15,022.23	12,462.10	27,484.33
COLLEGE HILL HEIGHTS	6,853.76	5,581.49	12,435.25
DELAY	934.50	934.50	1,869.00
DENMARK	56.00	24.00	80.00
FAITH	1,678.74		3,032.74
FBC ABBEVILLE	10,726.41	27,353.59	38,080.00
FBC OXFORD	108,942.50	85,511.57	194,454.07
LUTHEREL	1,024.59	1,528.00	2,552.59
NEW HOPE	400.59		7,008.75
NEW PROSPERITY	21,450.00	4,998.59	26,448.59
NORTH OXFORD	96,044.22	67,591.50	163,635.72



	COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
PARIS	1,275.00	2,980.00	4,255.00	BREWER	12,334.82	9,567.79	21,902.61	NORTHMINSTER	1,852.25	36,812.50	38,664.75	NEW BLACK JACK	200.00		200.00
PHILADELPHIA	2,365.00	2,990.00	5,355.00	CALVARY	186,286.96	141,225.17	327,512.13	NORTHSHORE	2,500.00	2,122.00	4,622.00	NEW HARMONY	525.00	1,449.00	1,974.00
SHILOH	2,365.00	2,990.00	5,355.00	CAMP CREEK	186,286.96	141,225.17	327,512.13	OAK FOREST	17,537.35	15,330.75	32,868.10	NEW PLEASANTDALE	140.00	360.00	500.00
TAYLOR	1,449.25	749.30	2,198.55	CHESTERVILLE	1,917.27	4,307.11	6,224.38	OVERVIEW	280.00	840.00	1,120.00	NORTH CALVARY	3,967.37	6,287.19	10,254.56
TRINITY HEIGHTS	1,449.25	749.30	2,198.55	DOITY CHAPEL	1,450.25	3,000.65	4,450.90	OLD BEE ROAD	1,648.37	2,791.08	4,439.45	OAK GROVE	1,097.71	1,031.27	2,128.98
TRINITY	1,500.00	75.00	1,575.00	DOITY CHAPEL	1,450.25	3,000.65	4,450.90	OLD BEE ROAD	1,648.37	2,791.08	4,439.45	OAK GROVE VALLEY	6,402.77	1,542.72	7,945.49
TULSA	2,828.45	2,876.39	5,704.84	EAST MISSION	14,511.21	19,049.43	33,560.64	PARKWAY	2,282.43	685.63	2,968.06	PAUL GROVE	5,881.00	12,562.00	18,443.00
UNION WEST	1,449.25	749.30	2,198.55	EAST MISSION	14,511.21	19,049.43	33,560.64	PARKWAY	2,282.43	685.63	2,968.06	SAND HILL	1,415.00	2,699.00	4,114.00
YELLOW LEAF	1,449.25	749.30	2,198.55	EAST MISSION	14,511.21	19,049.43	33,560.64	PARKWAY	2,282.43	685.63	2,968.06	SAND HILL	1,415.00	2,699.00	4,114.00
<b>LAMAR</b>	<b>316,830.09</b>	<b>267,852.74</b>	<b>584,682.83</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>53,289.82</b>	<b>15,774.27</b>	<b>69,064.09</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>69,064.09</b>	<b>136,017.36</b>	<b>255,081.45</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>157,342.47</b>	<b>213,922.05</b>	<b>371,264.52</b>
ASSOCIATION	492.00		492.00	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	NEW CHOCIAV			
AUTUMN RIDGE	250.00	1,940.00	2,190.00	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	BOULE CHITTO		55.07	55.07
BAKERSVILLE	1,003.52	2,570.73	3,574.25	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	BOULE CHITTO		55.07	55.07
BELLEVILLE	2,722.35		2,722.35	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	BOULE CHITTO		55.07	55.07
CALVARY	29,892.44	28,308.66	58,201.10	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	BOULE CHITTO		55.07	55.07
CORINTH	1,384.00	5,444.50	6,828.50	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	BOULE CHITTO		55.07	55.07
ELK LUMBERTON	7,980.17	12,392.38	20,372.55	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	BOULE CHITTO		55.07	55.07
ELK LUMBERTON	7,980.17	12,392.38	20,372.55	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	BOULE CHITTO		55.07	55.07
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ELK LUMBERTON	7,980.17	12,392.38	20,372.55	FREE COMMUNITY CH	926.00		926.00	TRINITY	2,499.96	750.00	3,249.96	BOULE CHITTO		55.07	55.07
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<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>18,007,546.17</b>	<b>15,640,449.69</b>	<b>33,647,995.86</b>
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## Homecomings and Revivals

**Antioch Church, Columbus: Homecoming, July 29; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by fellowship meal; Harvey Reeves, speaker.**

**Black Jack Church, Yazoo Association: Revival, July 29-Aug. 1; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch, and 6 p.m.; Jim Futral, speaker; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Rob Futral, speaker; Graham Smith, music; Ed Deuschle, interim pastor.**

**Center Ridge Church, Yazoo City: Homecoming and 115th anniversary, Aug. 12; 9:45 a.m., followed by lunch; special music and testimonies; Mike Sutton, speaker; Joey Ward, music; Daryl Oster, pastor.**

**County Line Church, Carthage: Homecoming, July 29; worship, 10:45 a.m., followed by lunch and singing; Danny Sephton, speaker.**

**Darlove Church, Washington Association: Homecoming, Aug. 5; pre-service singing, 10:30 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by potluck lunch; Alton Lassett, speaker.**

**Hopewell Church, Yalobusha Association: Revival, July 29-Aug. 1; 7 p.m. nightly; Bryan Bailey, speaker; Rick Glidewell, pastor.**

**Magee's Creek Church, Jayess: Homecoming and 169th anniversary, Aug. 12; 11 a.m., followed by covered dish meal and afternoon singing; Justin Morgan, speaker; All4Given, music; Jimmy Jones, pastor.**

**Oak Grove Church, Lake: Revival, Aug. 5-8; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by dinner on the grounds and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Don Gann, speaker; Ted Jones, music; Paul Earley, pastor.**

**Rocky Springs Church, Yazoo County: Revival and 149th homecoming, Aug. 3-5; Fri.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., regular services followed by dinner on the grounds; Albert Grey, speaker; Bobby Parker and Shannon Prescott, music; Glen Warrington, pastor.**

**Sauls Valley Church, Monticello: Revival and Homecoming, July 29-Aug. 1; Sun., Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch and All4Given in concert; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Bendon Ginn, speaker; Maurice Rutland, music.**

**Society Hill Church, Oakvale: Revival, Aug. 5-10; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Derek Lambert, speaker; Lucas Family, music; Eddy Myers, pastor; Billy Paul Cooper, minister of music.**

**Springfield Church, Natchez: Homecoming, July 29; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by dinner; Michael Townsend, speaker.**

**Sunrise Church, Petal: Homecoming and revival, Aug. 5-8; Sun., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by dinner; discipleship training, 5 p.m.; worship, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Frankie Clark, speaker; R.E. Thompson, music; Gerald Buckley, pastor.**

**Terry's Creek Church, Magnolia: Revival, July 26-29; Thurs.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch; Mark Byrd, speaker; Glen and Brenda Roberts, music; Todd Sumrall, pastor.**

**West McComb Church, McComb: Revival, July 29-Aug. 3; Sun., 8:30 and 11 a.m., followed by potluck dinner and concert; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Webb Armstrong, speaker; Ivy Butler, music.**

**Wheeler Grove Church, Corinth: Revival, Aug. 5-8; Sun., 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; special singing; Rick Coram, speaker; Kara Blackard, pastor.**

## Bibliocipher

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RLV EM E TU RLV DOB-  
DROB R DNRSB MUO  
KUH, E QENN SUYB  
RTREL, RLV OBSBEFB KUH  
HLPU YKXBNM; PCRP  
QCBOB E RY, PCBOB KB  
YRK GB RN XU.

AUCL MUHOPBBL:PCOBB

Clue: T = G

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Mark Ten: Fifteen.

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Perry Smith  
Hattiesburg  
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Eddie Sullivan  
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Jon D Sullivan  
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Fred K Watson  
Tupelo  
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## GIFTS OF HONOR AND MEMORY

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is especially designed to further honor, with love and respect, those who are and have been a blessing to our special friends.

JULY 8-20, 2007

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President George W. Bush  
Ms. Susan Harris  
Mrs. Evelyn Cannata  
Mrs. Brent Johnson  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Davis  
Ms. Leona H. Watts  
Dr. John McCall  
Dr. & Mrs. Gerald J. Hasselman  
Edwin Rowley  
Adult III SSC, N Columbia BC  
Mrs. Dot Scruggs  
Bible Learners Class, FBC-Sardis  
Dr. & Mrs. La Rue Stephens  
Ms. Leona H. Watts

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Mrs. Flossie Bailey  
Mr. & Mrs. Pat W. Denton  
Ms. Ruth V. Whitt  
Charlie Bass, Sr.  
Hope & Kenneth Hawkins  
Joseph Lynn Bishop  
Ms. Katherine B. Hester  
Woodrow Box, Jr.  
Dr. Jack Q. Causey  
Mrs. Mary Nell Avara Boykin  
Mr. & Mrs. E. Wayne Smith  
Mr. Ralph Brooks  
Mr. & Mrs. Leo N. Scruggs  
Arthur Brian Caraway  
Arlington Heights BC  
Sr Adult Ladies SSC

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Mrs. Susan W. Berryhill & Family  
Charles Collins  
Ms. Katie Gardner  
Wade Crimm  
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Lindsley  
Bobby E. Crouch  
Ms. Mary W. Knight  
Mrs. Bezy Johnson  
Annie Daly  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry P. Franklin  
Jesse Threest Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. Hershel G. Turner  
Larry Dickson  
Dr. & Mrs. Anthony S. Kay  
Janie Douglas  
Mr. & Mrs. Reece Douglas Jr.  
Mrs. Louise (Tim) Duckworth  
Oak Grove Baptist Church - Lake  
Betty Edwards  
Diana & Michael Forrest  
O. C. "Buck" Edwards  
Mr. Charles W. Holmes  
Annie Laurie "Rooney" Farish  
Kay & Ben McPherson  
Susie Fontenot  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Bruton  
Mr. & Mrs. E. E. Fortenberry  
Mr. & Mrs. Glen D. Fortenberry  
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Louella Garner  
Ms. Evelyn C. Kinstley  
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Matt Gaylor  
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Dorothy Gibson  
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Thomas "Tom" Hardage  
Terrell E. Chester  
Joanne S. Eubanks  
Mrs. Etta Mae Barnett  
Drew Harrington  
Mr. & Mrs. Jackie Wooley & Jordan  
Carr Haskins  
Mrs. Tena Haskins  
Mr. J. R. Haynes  
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Mae Henley  
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny M. Fox  
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Gifford Houston  
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Ms. Margaret Ann Finnie  
Mrs. Josephine Jackson  
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Mr. Jimmy Joel  
Mrs. Ruth A. McCullough  
Yvondine Johnson  
Mrs. James T. Carlisle & Family  
Royce Jordan  
North McComb Baptist Church  
Candy Keyes  
Mr. & Mrs. Reece Douglas Jr.  
Mrs. Dorothy Kirk  
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby L. Kirk  
Marjorie Kuzmits  
Mr. & Mrs. A. M. Holmes



The youth of Enon Baptist Church in Grenada were lead in a mission trip to The BCV by Rev. and Mrs. Fletcher Moorman. The youth helped with a special project and spent time with the BCV residents. The group also delivered the VBS offering collected by the children of the church and paper goods collected churchwide.

Larry Lambert  
Mr. & Mrs. Lane Templeton  
Louella Langston  
Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Bass  
Gertrude Lee  
Pat & Hiram Stanford, Herman,  
Lawanna & Meaghan  
Bobby Lindsley  
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Lindsley  
Mr. Floyd Lynk  
Mr. & Mrs. David Furr  
Julia Lynn  
Mr. & Mrs. Cecil D. Wilkinson  
Grady McAdams  
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Donnie & Margaret Valentine  
Mrs. June Holmes  
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Olivia, Kathy & Harry Brown  
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Dan Presley  
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Lindsley  
Mr. C. I. "Red" Pylate  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Whitaker  
Mrs. Hilda C. Ratcliff  
Mrs. Virginia R. Blackwell  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry M. Burkhalter  
Mrs. Eva Dorris "Dot" Ray  
Jerusalem Baptist Church

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Dr. Jack Q. Causey  
Mrs. Tena Haskins  
Genie Robbins  
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse R. Johnson  
Louise Rush  
Mrs. Sylvia Ward  
Mrs. Paul Sims  
Mr. & Mrs. Archie C. Leggett  
Alvis Smith  
Ralph, Mildred & Nancy Gardner  
Bonnie Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Allen  
Mother of Wayne Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Gore III  
Heath, Susan, Alix & Abby Lynch  
Mr. William "Will" Randolph Soyars  
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Brock  
Glenda & Jerry Fry  
Mrs. Tena Haskins  
Mr. & Mrs. Balfour Lipscomb  
Mrs. Dora Murray  
Mr. Charles Steele  
Mr. & Mrs. Pat W. Denton  
Baby of Chad & LeeAnn Stuart  
J. D. & Stephanie Harrison

Jimmy Sumner  
Mrs. Dora Murray  
C. J. (Honey) Taylor  
Mrs. Elsie J. Sumrow  
Mrs. Luvie Thomas  
Mr. & Mrs. Lendon E. Brown  
Mr. Roland Thornton  
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Dr. John White, Senator  
Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Grisham Sr.  
Evelyn Witcher  
Mr. & Mrs. Aubry L. Hays  
T. Edward Wood  
Mr. & Mrs. Altus M. Holmes  
Ms. Verna Woodruff  
Ms. Margaret Ann Finnie



The children of Harmony Baptist Church recently visited The BCV. The group brought videos for the residents and toured the campus. They are pictured with Chrystelle Thames (center), BCV Public Relations Director whom they presented with their VBS offering collection.

## School Needs List:

- X-Large back packs for High School students
- 8 basic color water color paint sets
- Adult-sized (no pocket) white t-shirts
- Clorox wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Math flash cards
- Ultra-fine and fine point Sharpie brand markers
- Zip-Lock One Zip storage bags (gallon and quart)
- Paperback dictionaries
- Poster board
- Science fair boards



# BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

## Agreeing on the Basics

Acts 15:1-2, 4-5, 12-15a, 23-29

By Laura Leathers

"In 1786, when William Carey laid the burden of the world missions before a ministerial meeting in Northampton, England, the eminent Dr. Ryland said to him, 'Young man, sit down! When God pleases to convert the heathen, He will do it without your aid or mine!' More than one Spirit-filled servant of God has had to enter open doors of opportunity without the support of churches and religious leaders." (Warren Wiersbe, *Be Daring*, page 21)

There is no doubt about it; differences of opinion can lead to huge conflicts. How do you handle conflict? Some people act like it doesn't exist while others elect to address differences in an open and direct manner. This week we will complete this month's study on "Let's Do Church Right."

Our lessons have focused on unity, fulfilling our call, and evangelism with all people in all places.

Almost twenty years have passed since the church came into existence — growth and many challenges have been addressed. Opening the 15th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles we learn the church was being presented with its most difficult question thus far: "Must a Gentile become a Jew, accepting Jewish ceremonies and laws, in order to be saved?" Was the existing racial and generational wall going to grow taller or was the wall going to disintegrate once and for all? Now was the time "to look into and consider this matter." Today's church can learn a great deal from the apostles, the elders, along with the multitudes as they took the step to ...



Leathers

### 1. Acknowledge the Conflict (Acts 15:1-2, 4-5)

"Certain men," probably legalistic Jewish teachers who went out on their own (vs. 24), came to Antioch and began to teach. Their teaching was based upon the Law and not on grace and faith alone. Therefore, a delegation was sent to attend the

church conference at First Church Jerusalem so this issue could be addressed. Upon their arrival, Paul and Barnabas "reported all things that God had done with them" while they were on their missionary journey.

However, there was a "sect of the Pharisees (believers) who rose up, saying, it is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the Law of Moses" (vs. 5, see Genesis 17:9-14). Should Paul and Barnabas be teaching the Gentiles how to live as good Jews? The answer is a resound, absolutely not! For it is by grace you have been saved, not by works, lest any man should boast. (Eph. 2:5, 9; Romans 6:14). Christ plus nothing!

### 2. Evaluate in Light of Scripture (Acts 15:12-15a)

When it comes to addressing conflict in the church the first course of action by all the members should be to study God's Word and glean for His truth regarding the matter. First Church Jerusalem faced this issue by asking if anyone could give a testimony. Please note, "all parties were heard and there had been much debate" (vs. 7). Peter, to whom the keys were given to build the church, was the first to address this issue (vss. 6-11). He reminds his audience that it is "God who knows the heart" and "He gave them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us, and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith" (italics added for emphasis, vs. 8-9). Peter's main question, do you want to keep the Gentiles in bondage by keeping the law when we weren't even to bear it? The multitude grew silent and listened as Barnabas and Paul testified about "many miracles and wonders God had worked through them among the Gentiles" (vs. 12). James delivered the third speech and

with a firm "listen to me" quoted Amos 9:11-12 reiterating it was salvation by faith alone (also see Zech. 8:20-23). Perhaps the minutes from the meeting read — Peter revealed, Paul recounted, and James remembered the prophets affirmed this truth.

### 3. Identify the Nonnegotiable Truths (Acts 15:23-29)

"The council concluded by sending a letter to the Gentile believers to dispel the notion that they must be circumcised as part of their salvation and to encourage them to avoid practices (things polluted by idols, sexual immorality, things strangled, and from blood). Following these four areas of abstinence would allow the Gentile and Jewish Christians to fellowship together" (Lifeway).

The Non-negotiable Truth — Jesus is the Way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6)

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1)

Leathers is a member of First Church, Durant.

# EXPLORE THE BIBLE

## Integrity

Zechariah 7:1-14

By Charles Rodgers

There is something wrong with worship in the average church today. Our church sanctuaries, auditoriums, and worship centers are seldom full as more and more people seem to be opting out of worship. What's wrong? Some people say they have quit going because services are boring. Others say the style does not suit them any longer. Many feel that what goes on in church is no longer relative to their needs. A few have stated that the services are self-serving and egotistical. The sad truth is worship in many churches today is no longer about God. The worship wars of the last 10 or 15 years have created factions within numerous churches, and large numbers of people are migrating from one church to another trying to find one that meets their expectations. We

want worship to be carried out according to our own individual tastes. We have made worship about us and not about God.

The truth is that almighty God — the only one worthy of praise — expects His people to worship and serve Him with genuine devotion. Worship could best be defined as "worship — to appreciate the worth of someone." Worship is about recognizing the worth of God and revering Him. Another definition says to worship means "to regard with great or extravagant respect, honor, or devotion." Someone said, "Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness; the nourishment of mind with His truth; the purifying of imagination by His beauty; the opening of the heart to His love; the surrender of will to His purpose."



Rodgers

God with right motives and on relating properly to others. Please notice that he encourages the people to:

### 1. Check Their Motives — Zechariah 7:1-7

About 2 years after the people had begun to rebuild the temple, the citizens of Bethel sent a delegation to Jerusalem to question the continuation of a fasting ritual in the fifth month of the year. This particular ritual had begun soon after the Jews had been taken into captivity in Babylon, and was a ritual of fasting and weeping including the wearing of veils and the chanting of laments. It seems that the ritual had lost its significance for them since they

were now back home. It had become merely ceremonial.

Through Zechariah, God questions the sincerity of the people in their fasting, suggesting that their actions were self-centered. Their fasting was initiated to help them remember the prophecy of the prophets who had previously warned them of their impending doom. Instead they had simply made the fasts a time of ceremonial formality. God asks that the people check out their motives for fasting, and return to God-centered worship. We would do well ourselves to consider our own motives for worship, opting to move away from self-centered worship to God-centered worship.

### II. Express Your Integrity — Zechariah 7:8-10

God reminds them of specific instructions He had given their fathers before exile on how they were to treat each other. These instructions not only apply to pre-exilic Israel, to the delegation from Bethel, to the citizens of Bethel, to all Israelites, but to all people of all nations in all generations. He is calling on them to express the integrity of

their commitment to Him by dealing compassionately with one another. This message applies to us as well. Our treatment of other people is one way to measure how well we express our integrity as believers.

### III. Learn from the Past — Zechariah 7:11-14

He reminds the delegation that their fathers had refused to listen and to hearken to God's commands and warnings. The exile was a result of their rebellion and rejection of God. God says in verse 13, "Just as He had called, and they would not listen, so when they called, I would not listen, says the Lord of Hosts." Because God's people did not maintain the integrity of their commitment to Him, even when He had sent a number of prophets to warn them, He brought judgment on them and their land. We can learn from the experiences of earlier generations the value and necessity of maintaining our integrity before God.

Rodgers is Associational Missions Director for Jackson Association and a member of First Church, Gautier.

## Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats,

no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the **who, what, when, where** details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be

clear, sharp, and well-lighted. **Photographs can not be returned.**

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape-, building-, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

THE BAPTIST  
**Record**



## JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Bible Drillers, Friendship Church, Grenada



2. Bible Drillers, New Heights Church, Summit



3. Noteburning for church bus, First Church, Foxworth

1. **Friendship Church, Grenada**, recognizes its youth Bible Drillers. Shown are the participants.

2. **New Heights Church, Summit**, recognizes its Bible Drillers. From top, Kara Forman, Marisha Frugia, Carly Ball, Lorkissa Frugia, Mallory Ball, Victoria McInnis, Victoria Forshee (Arlington Church, Bogue Chitto), and Joey Elliot.

3. **First Church, Foxworth**, observed a noteburning service June 10 after the final payment on their church bus. The church paid \$75,000 for the bus in just over a year while increasing giving in all other areas including missions and local funds. Shown are pastor Charles L. Nail and other members of the bus committee.

4. **Neely Church, Neely**, licensed Clay Byrd to the ministry. He will be available for supply. J. Wilbur Hall, pastor.

5. The youth from **Vaiden Church, Vaiden**, prepare to leave for M-Fuge, Nashville, Tenn., for six days of mission work. Dustin Long, youth pastor; Freddie Matthews, pastor.



4. Byrd licensed to ministry, Neely Church, Neely



5. Youth prepare for M-Fuge, Vaiden Church, Vaiden

6. **Wheeler Grove Church, Corinth**, is hosting Heaven's Journey and the Heismen in concert July 29, 6:30 p.m. For information, call (662) 287-2864; Kara Blackard, pastor.

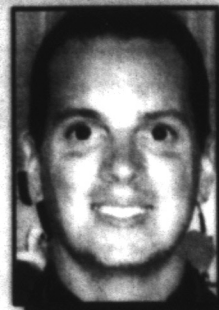
7. **First Church, Newton**, is sponsoring KidZFest Aug. 5, 5-7 p.m., with free backpacks and school supplies to the first 250 kids present at the Newton Station Depot. The event includes free hot dogs and soft drinks, inflatable games, a dunking booth, and other activities. Free. For more information, visit [www.fbstudents.org](http://www.fbstudents.org) or call (601) 683-2066.

8. The **Mississippi Baptist Agricultural Missions Fellowship** and the **Agricultural Development Foundation** will meet jointly Aug. 4 at **Central Hills Retreat**. All Mississippi Baptists interested in agricultural missions are invited to attend. For more

information, contact Carol Wright at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS. 39205-0530, or call (601) 292-3334; toll-free outside Jackson at (800) 748-1651, ext. 334. Email: [cwright@mbcb.org](mailto:cwright@mbcb.org).

### STATE CHANGES

**Park Haven Church, Laurel**, has called **Steven Holifield** as pastor, coming from **Salem Heights Church, Hattiesburg**. Holifield holds degrees from **Southeastern Bible College, William Carey**, and **Andersonville Theological Seminary**. He teaches at **Oak Grove Upper Elementary** in **Hattiesburg**.



Holifield

### MS POSITIONS

**BROOKSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**, Brooksville, Miss., is seeking a bi-vocational music director. Send resumes to Janice Kesler, music chairman, 2922 Fire Tower Rd., Crawford, MS 39743.

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**, located on 49 south in Braxton, Miss., seeking a Minister of Music. Send resumes to Calvary Baptist Church, attn: music committee, P.O. Box 111, Braxton, MS 39044.

**CLEAR BAPTIST CHURCH**, Florence, Miss., seeks a part-time children's minister. Please submit resumes to M. Vance, 129 N. Eagle Ridge Drive, Florence, MS 39073.

**EPHESUS BAPTIST CHURCH** is seeking a full-time Minister of Youth and Recreation. Job requires working with youth and children and Scheduling Family-Life Center events. Send resume to Dr. Jim Everett, 3495 Ephesus Road, Forest, MS 39074 or e-mail: [jimincebc@earthlink.net](mailto:jimincebc@earthlink.net).

**FULL-TIME MINISTER OF YOUTH/MUSIC**. Parkview Baptist Church, Greenville, MS is seeking a full-time minister of youth and/or music. Please send resume to Personnel Committee, 712 McAllister Street, Greenville, MS 38701 or email to [parkviewp@bellsouth.net](mailto:parkviewp@bellsouth.net).

**UNION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH**, Shannon, Miss., is seeking a bi-vocational youth minister/director. Contact pastor Casey Jones at (662) 365-3731 or (662) 554-1320. Email [cjones@dishmail.net](mailto:cjones@dishmail.net).

**ROSE HILL FBC, ROSE HILL, MS** is seeking a bi-vocational worship leader/minister of music. Please send resumes to Rose Hill FBC P.O. Box 1 Rose Hill, MS 39356,

attn: Worship Leader search committee. Or email [ebmartin@bayspringstel.net](mailto:ebmartin@bayspringstel.net). View website: [www.rosehillfbc.org](http://www.rosehillfbc.org). Pastor: Bro. Eddie Martin.

**UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH**, 3200 West Arlington Loop, Hattiesburg, MS 39402, seeking a part-time youth minister and/or youth choir music director. Primary responsibilities are planning and implementing youth activities and ministries and/or leadership of youth music ministry is a possibility. Interested women or men, 20 yrs of age or older, send a resume to personnel committee.

**MT. LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH**, Water Valley, Miss., is seeking a full-time or bi-vocational minister. Please submit resume to search committee, 906 Stephens St., Water Valley, MS 38965 or call Betty Melton (662) 473-2095.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON**, Miss., is currently seeking applicants for a full-time stewardship secretary position in the Business Office. The position requires good communication skills and the effective use of computer technology. Knowledge of Shelby Systems applications is a plus. Please send a resume to Tommy Vickers, Business Administrator, P. O. Box 250, Jackson, MS 39205, or email to [tvickers@fbcj.org](mailto:tvickers@fbcj.org).

**BRIAR HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**, seeking a full-time associate pastor of music and worship ministries. Please mail all resumes to Briar Hill Baptist Church, P.O. Box 129, Florence, MS 39073, attn: music search committee by 8/27/07.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

**AFFORDABLE BEACHSIDE & beachfront** vacation condos. Early Fall specials, Gulf Shores & Orange Beach, Alabama, [www.gulshorescondos.com](http://www.gulshorescondos.com). Two nights efficiency sleeps 4 beachside, \$256. Four nights 2 bedroom sleeps 6 beachfront \$605. Four nights 2 bedroom sleeps 6 beachfront \$383. Four nights 2 bedroom sleeps 6 beachfront \$650, expires 8/30/07. Prices include everything. Call (205) 556-0368 or (205) 554-1524.

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**MOVING? MOAN & GROAN MOVERS**, (601) 849-3259. You provide truck & boxes. We provide Labor.

**HOLMES COUNTY ASSN. SEEKING** director of missions. For questions call George Martin, (662) 633-0251 or David Richmond, (662) 420-9479. Submit resumes via email [mrcoinnman@bellsouth.net](mailto:mrcoinnman@bellsouth.net), or mail to D. Richmond, 103 North St., Lexington, MS 39095.

**DISCOUNT BAPTISTRIES & STEEPLES.** Baptist murals, heaters, lighting, seating, wall crosses, pew cushions, kringlgas, carpet, signs. Church Supply Company of Texas, (800) 728-8291.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ZACHARY** is seeking a full-time Minister of Students. Resumes should be sent to First Baptist Church, 4200 Main St., Zachary, LA 70791, attn: Robert Ballard. They may also be emailed to Robert Ballard at [rballard47@cox.net](mailto:rballard47@cox.net). Call Robert at (225) 654-7767 or (225) 505-6132.

**CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY**, free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

**WANTED:** Christian couple or single lady 50 or over to live in lovely furnished private apartment. All expenses paid, rent free in return for care. Call (601) 684-5754.

**HOPPER GLASS STUDIO, CUSTOM** church windows, reworking and repair, Columbus/Jackson, (877) 477-1899.

**HEIDELBERG STAINED GLASS**, Meridian. Design, fabrication, repair. Fax illustrations to (601) 483-7958 or call (800) 368-2705.

**KOLA HOMESTEAD GUEST HOUSE**, Collins, Mississippi, has four bedrooms and can sleep up to fifteen. A fully furnished kitchen is available. Local attractions: Grand Paradise Water Park, Mitchell Farms, Collins Zoo, canoe on the Okatoma, hike or bike on the Rails to Trails. Great for church groups, retreats, (601) 765-8812.

**SEBREN'S SIDING, JACKSON**, Christian owned. All home improvements, vinyl siding, windows, metal and shingle roofs, patio covers, screen and glass rooms. (601) 992-2092, Don & Rita Sebren, owners.

**NEW ENGLAND MOTORCOACH TOUR:** Oct. 1-10. Cape Cod, Stur Bridge Village Von Trapp Family Lodge, Brooklyn Tabernacle worship service, Psalms of David, Lancaster, PA. 17 states, bus, lodging, admission, 20 meals, 9 nights, 10 days, \$1750. Double occ., Purpose Driven Tours (601) 371-8733. Many other trips available or will plan for your group.